

Two New Birds for Maine. — The United Ornithologists of Maine report the occurrence of two birds new to the State. The February number of the 'Maine Sportsman,' their official organ, published in Bangor, reported the taking of a Greater Redpoll, *Acanthis linaria rostrata* at Gardiner, Dec. 30, 1896, by Wm. L. Powers. The bird was shot from a flock of Lesser Redpolls, and the skin sent to Mr. Wm. Brewster, Cambridge, Mass., for identification.

The March number contains the account of a number of skins collected in the winter of 1878-79 by James Carroll Mead of North Bridgton. Mr. Mead was with Mr. Powers when the Greater Redpoll was captured, and on returning home and inspecting his collection, he deemed it wise to submit them to Mr. Brewster, who identified one as the *Acanthis linaria holboellii*, which decision was afterward ratified by Mr. Robert Ridgway of the Smithsonian Institution. — WM. L. POWERS, *Gardiner, Me.*

The Redpoll in Maryland. — Sunday, January 17, 1897, while walking in Druid Hill Park, Baltimore, I saw a highly colored male Redpoll (*Acanthis linaria*). When first seen it was perched in a tree about twenty feet from me, and after watching it for some time with a field glass, I tried to approach nearer, but when my eyes were off it for an instant it disappeared from view, and although I hunted it for quite a while I was unable to see it a second time.

I was surprised to see one, as I have only expected them during very severe weather, whereas we have not had such, the thermometer at the time registering 42°. — WM. H. FISHER, *Baltimore, Md.*

Bachman's Sparrow in Maryland. — While passing through an old scattered pine wood on April 29, 1896, near Kensington, Maryland, my attention was attracted by the loud and unfamiliar song of a Sparrow perched well up in an old dead pine top. I secured the bird, which turned out to be an adult male *Peuceea aestivalis bachmanii* in well worn plumage. Close by in another pine I crippled another which managed to reach the top of the tree and remained hidden in spite of my efforts to dislodge it. This is apparently the most northern record on the Atlantic Slope, and is a new addition for Maryland. — J. D. FIGGINS, *Washington, D. C.*

The Seaside Sparrow (*Ammodramus maritimus*) at Middletown, R. I. — In looking over a collection of land and water birds taken by Mr. Edward Sturtevant in Rhode Island, I found a specimen of a male Seaside Sparrow which he had shot near Gardiners Pond on the Second Beach Marshes in Middletown on July 18, 1889.

During the past summer I walked over these same marshes, but did not see a bird that justified shooting as a Seaside, among the many Sharp-tailed Sparrows (*A. caudacutus*) that inhabited the marshes. But on July 6, 1896, Mr. Sturtevant took a female *A. maritimus* on the marshes.

Personally, I think that a few of these Sparrows breed on the Middletown marshes yearly, and if this is a fact it moves their known breeding range sixteen miles to the northward, or in other words from Point Judith marshes to Middletown.

I cannot think that after breeding is over, which by July 6 could hardly be, the birds would roam sixteen miles to the northward across ocean. However, we have at least two records of their capture there; if nothing more. — REGINALD HEBER HOWE, JR., *Longwood, Mass.*

Henslow's Bunting (*Ammodramus henslowi*) **Found Breeding at Plymouth, Michigan.** — On July 27, 1893, while mowing grass in a hay field, I discovered a bird which by its peculiar song and habits was a new species for this locality. It had a nest, among the tall grass, which contained eggs, but unfortunately they were broken by the mowing machine. The bird was very uneasy, repeatedly hiding in the tall grass and only leaving its hiding place when the mowing machine knives were nearly upon it. It stuck to the standing grass until the last swath was cut, after which it would dive under the fallen hay, where I tried repeatedly to capture it alive, and after failing in this, I procured the specimen with a gun. After careful examination I pronounced it the Henslow's Bunting, but to make the identification sure, I later presented the specimen to the United States National Museum, and received the following in reply from Mr. Charles W. Richmond, Assistant Curator of the Department of Birds.

rare!
"In reply to your letter of the 2nd inst. [March 2, 1896] addressed to Mr. Ridgway (who is absent in Florida), I have to say that your identification of the specimen sent as a Henslow's Bunting is correct. This species ought not to be seen in Michigan. Cook's Birds of Michigan does not record any specimens taken in the State. The bird is very liable to be overlooked, but when once you learn its song you will be quite sure to find more of them. The eggs are quite uncommon in collections. Major C. E. Bendire, the Curator of Oölogy here, can give you more definite information on this point. We are pleased to accept your offer to give the specimen to the National Museum, and you will receive due acknowledgment in a few days."

I then sent the following description of the eggs to Major Bendire. Eggs white, dotted at the large end with reddish spots, and thinly dotted with reddish specks at the small end. Nest composed of fine dry grass, and lined with the same material. To this Major Bendire replied as follows:

"In answer to yours of the 9th inst., I have no doubt whatever that the nest and eggs you describe are those of Henslow's Bunting; your description of the same fits them exactly, and since you secured the bird at the same time (which I have seen), it makes this almost positive. There can be little doubt that the eggs in question are those of Henslow's Bunting, and so far as I know, I believe this is the first instance of this bird having